

VIA: Air Pouch  
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. 4857

25X1

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CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief, Communications

DATE: 22 November 1950

FROM : Chief,                     

SUBJECT: GENERAL - Facilities for the Transmission                       
SPECIFIC - Material                     

References:                     

1. It seems simplest and clearest to report the status of agreement on Subject by providing copies of recent correspondence with                     . Brief comments on these letters are included when clarification seems necessary.

2. In confirmation of the talk with                     , reported in                      4501, I wrote him the letter enclosed as Attachment A. In reply thereto                      sent me a note enclosed as Attachment B.

3. As a result of the request for a meeting expressed by                      and I had a talk with him as soon as he was available. The important points covered are set forth in                      letter of confirmation, Attachment C. During this conversation                      stated that some of the                      officials concerned with this matter interpreted my paragraph three, Attachment A, as indicating that the                      representative would have the right independently to utilize our facilities for the transmission of                      material. I do not know how the individuals concerned arrived at this interpretation for in my opinion it is made perfectly clear in Attachment A that the use of our facilities would be contingent upon agreement by the representatives of the three interested agencies - although not necessarily in each emergency that would arise. The question of the forwarding of                      material from Washington to                      when our facilities are used from                      to Washington was raised by                      and it was agreed that so long as the existing facilities continued available this transmission would be assured.                      explained that we did not have exclusive control over the link from Washington to                      and that, therefore, our agreement to transmit                      material would be dependent upon the continued availability of these facilities which are under the control of other agencies of the U. S. Government. This assurance seems reasonable and is acceptable to                     .

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25X1 4. After considerable conversation and correspondence in regard to this matter, I believe that the record now shows that our facilities may be used for the transmission of [ ] material from [ ] to Washington in the event of an emergency, as agreed by the [ ] representatives of [ ]

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25X1 5. It is requested that Headquarters approve the agreement as it stands and inform [ ] accordingly. Upon receipt of Headquarters approval I shall inform [ ] so he may advise the [ ] agencies [ ] and their representatives on [ ] of the arrangements.

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Attchmts: 3 (A,B,C.)  
Distribution:  
CCD 2(w/attchmts)  
Registry 1  
Files 1

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6 September 1950



Pursuant to our conversation of this date, I am again writing in regard to the facilities to be employed in the transmission of [redacted] material from [redacted] in an emergency.

The [redacted] position in this matter as set forth in your letter of July 26, 1950, addressed to me, appears to limit emergencies to the breakdown of [redacted] inability to handle the traffic for any other reason. Further, the [redacted] position, as stated by you, reserves exclusively for the representatives of [redacted] the right and privilege to propose the opening of the emergency reserve channel to be provided through our facilities. I submit that neither the assumption nor the provision is adequate. In these critical times emergencies other than the breakdown or overloading of communication facilities are entirely possible. Therefore, our representatives on [redacted] should have the right and privilege of raising the question of the use of emergency facilities because of their direct concern in transmission under certain circumstances.

At the moment the [redacted] and American positions in this matter appear to be at opposite poles. In my letter to you of April 1950 I proposed that our representatives on [redacted] should be empowered to determine when the emergency facilities should be employed. Then, as noted above, you stated the [redacted] position that the [redacted] representative should exclusively raise this question. Can we not agree upon a middle position in which it is recognized that either [redacted] [redacted] can propose the use of our emergency facilities and arrange locally for the opening and utilization of emergency facilities under conditions to be agreed? I am not proposing that in each instance where emergency facilities are required there would be a conference with unanimous agreement on the matter. Rather, I am proposing that by agreement between the three interested parties in [redacted], it should be determined that under certain emergency circumstances our facilities would be employed for the transmission of [redacted] material and that provision should be made by the representatives concerned in [redacted] for the necessary and desirable clearance and concurrences. If the present critical situation should further deteriorate, it is clearly possible that arrangements for the use of communication facilities [redacted] would be quickly outmoded and rapid and immediate modification might be necessary. It, therefore, seems realistic and desirable to empower our representatives there to handle the situation as it develops.

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I request that you consider with the proper [ ] authorities  
the proposition that the employment of our facilities for the trans-  
mission of [ ] material from [ ] in an emergency be authorized  
in accordance with agreement reached by the representatives of [ ]  
[ ]

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Sincerely,

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ATTACHMENT B

I am very sorry that circumstances have prevented me answering your letter of 6th September earlier, but it has been difficult to get those concerned together and since doing so I have been away sick for some time.

STAT  
STAT  
However, the question of local arrangements [ ] for the use of emergency communication of broadcast [ ] material still does not seem to be quite as simple as it looks. There are one or two points which I would very much like to discuss with you in conversation rather than by writing. Would you therefore be good enough to telephone me and say when it would be convenient to have a short talk? I could be available on Friday, 3rd November, in the morning, but rather doubt if there would be any opportunity before this.

Perhaps you would be kind enough to let me know.

Yours sincerely,

STAT  
[ ]

ATTACHMENT C

17 November 1950

STAT I am most grateful to you and to [ ] for calling the other  
STAT day, to discuss further the question of the [ ] transmissions.

More particularly, I am grateful to you for clearing up the slight doubt that there had been in our minds in regard to the interpretation of the third paragraph of your letter of 6th September. You have now assured me that in no sense was it the intention that that paragraph would result in unilateral action in regard to the use of your transmitter. With your assurance on this matter we can agree the last sentence of the second paragraph of your letter of 6th September, and your suggestion that every circumstance likely to result in an emergency requirement should be explored by the parties concerned, and, so far as possible, a line of action agreed beforehand. We should like to know what transpires.

STAT We should also like to know from you that in the event of your  
STAT emergency channel to Washington having to be used for broadcast [ ]  
material, you would be prepared to arrange for the re-routing of that  
material to [ ] so long as the existing facilities continue. We  
particularly ask for this assurance as it seems most likely that the  
circumstances under which your emergency route would be used presuppose  
STAT the failure of the existing communications channels of [ ]  
STAT from [ ] to London, which would entail the failure of the material to  
reach the [ ] authority here.

Yours sincerely,

STAT [ ]